

# FARMING



Photo courtesy of Mary Rai  
Circa 1935



Photo courtesy of The Cesar E. Chavez Foundation  
Circa 1930



Photo courtesy of Mary Rai  
Circa 1935

The Mexican and Punjabi immigrants soon found work on farms in the Central and Imperial Valleys. Originally, the Punjabis intended to work in California, save money and then return to India. Poor wages and working conditions led the Punjabis to lease land instead of being farm laborers. Mexican laborers could return to Mexico easily. This began a migration cycle. During major wars, farm labor shortages forced California growers to recruit Mexican workers. In hard economic periods, Mexican and Mexican Americans were forcibly deported to Mexico.



Photo courtesy of The Cesar E. Chavez Foundation  
Circa 1930